

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

PATENT APPLICATION

Applicant : James K. Hamlin
Application No. : 10/677,397 Confirmation No. : 8870
Filed : October 1, 2003
For : SYSTEMS AND METHODS FOR COMMUNICATING
DATA
Art Unit : 2616
Examiner : Alexander O. Boakye

New York, New York 10036
August 29, 2007

Mail Stop RCE
Hon. Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450

SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Sir:

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.56 and 1.97, applicant hereby makes the following patent documents of record in the above-identified patent application:

Japan 08-235112 (September 13, 1996)
Japan 09-282287 (October 31, 1997)

Copies of the aforementioned patent documents, which are listed on the accompanying Form PTO/SB/08, are enclosed. English-

language translations of these documents, as generated by the Japanese Patent Office website, are included.

It is respectfully requested that these patent documents be: (1) fully considered by the Patent and Trademark Office during the examination of this application; and (2) printed on any patent which may issue on this application. Applicant requests that a copy of Form PTO/SB/08, as considered and initialled by the Examiner, be returned with the next communication.

These documents were cited in a Japanese official action dated May 20, 2005 in a counterpart Japanese patent application. For the convenience of the Examiner, a copy of the Japanese official action is attached. The third Japanese patent document cited in the official action (Japan 04-229357) is a counterpart to Pham et al. U.S. Patent No. 5,524,253, previously made of record in this application.

This Supplemental Information Disclosure Statement is being submitted with a Request for Continued Examination. Accordingly, pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(b)(3), no fee is due.

An early and favorable action is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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SHUSAKU YAMAMOTO

Application No.: 10-371357

Your Docket No.: SSA/001

(Translation)

NOTICE OF REASONS FOR REJECTION

Patent Application No. 10-371357

Examiner: Tatsuya SUDO 3355 5R00

Date: May 18, 2005

Mailing Date: May 20, 2005

Applicable Sections Sec. 29 main paragraph, Sec. 29(2),
Sec. 36

To: Shusaku YAMAMOTO, Patent Attorney

The present application is rejected for the following reasons. Any argument must be submitted within 3 months from the mailing date of this document.

REASONS

A. The following claims of the present application do not comply with the requirements of Sec. 29(1) main paragraph of the Japanese Patent Law on the points specified in the notes below.

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NOTES

(1) Because it is unclear what or who the subject is which specifically carries out each of the steps defined in claims 1 to 16, these claims include steps carried out by a human, such as a human that converts a source format (by using a calculator) into a standard format and a human decides a destination address (by using a calculator). Therefore, the inventions defined by claims 1 to 16 do not fall under the scope of "invention" because these claims are not a technical idea employing a law of nature.

B. The following claims of the present application do not comply with the requirements of Sec. 36(2) of the Japanese Patent Law on the points specified in the notes below.

NOTES

(1) It is unclear what or who the subject is carries out each step described in claims 1 to 16 (when clearing what or who the subject is, please clarify which step is carried out on the side of the source and which step is carried out on the side of the destination).

(2) Claim 1 describes "a source address that is associated with said source process". However, it is unclear what the description means. It is unclear if it is intended to mean the source (system) address at which the source process is carried out or if there another intended meaning. The same applies to claims 2 to 32.

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(3) Claim 1 describes "transmitting said data in said destination format to said destination process". However, it is unclear if the system which receives the data of the destination format and the system which carries out the destination process are different systems. Therefore, it is unclear if "transmitting" is meant as transmitting the data to the system which carries out the destination process (via a network), or the system which receives the data of the destination format. If these two systems are the same system, it is unclear if it is meant that "transmitting" is meant as handing off the data to the process. The same applies to claims 2 to 32.

(4) Claim 2 describes "notifying a user of an error upon an occurrence of at least one of a specified number of other transmission attempts and an absence of said acknowledgment of receipt within a given time period".

(a) It is unclear what "an occurrence of at least one of a specified number of other transmission attempts and an absence of said acknowledgment of receipt within a given time period" means.

(b) It is unclear what "notifying a user of an error" means.

The same applies to claim 18.

(5) Claim 17 describes "a source receiver", "a source translator", "an addressing mechanism", "a source transmitter", "a destination receiver", "a destination translator", and "a destination transmitter". However, it is unclear which hardware sources comprise the source (source terminal) and which hardware sources comprise the destination (destination terminal).

The same applies to claims 1 to 32.

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C. The following claims of the present application are rejected under Sec. 29(2) of the Japanese Patent Law as being obvious to those skilled in the art over the following cited reference(s) published in Japan or in a foreign country prior to the filing of the present application.

NOTES (See List of Cited References)

(1) Claims: 1 to 32

Cited References: 1 to 3

Remarks

Cited Reference 1 describes carrying out communication between applied businesses with different nodes (for example, see paragraph 23).

Cited Reference 1 describes a data transmitter which converts data into a CDR format (which corresponds to a "standard format" in claims 1 to 32) and sends the CDR-format data, and a receiving system which converts the CDR-format data into a local data format for the receiving system (for example, see paragraph 50).

Cited Reference 1 describes that a dynamic message part of a marshalled (grouped) message includes a user data and a type attribute. The type attribute is necessary to unmarshal (ungroup) the user data and an inherent information for a node which, for example, enables the conversion of the user data into a local format type.

Comparing the inventions defined by claims 1 to 32 and the inventions described in Cited Reference 1, there is a difference in that the inventions defined in claims 1 to 32 determine a destination address based on at least one source address which is associated with a known data type and a source process.

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Consider the above-mentioned difference:

Regarding the point of determining the destination address based on the known data type, Cited Reference 2 describes that by referencing an operating control information database, a terminal determines a receiving calculator by determining a calculator adjusted for carrying out the job related to the function corresponding to a command and sends the receiving calculator by translating into communication code in accordance with a network protocol along with information indicating the receiving calculator (for example, see paragraphs 3 and 4).

Regarding the point of determining a destination address based on the source address associated with the source process, Cited Reference 3 describes determining a server notifying a transaction based on a sending terminal of the transaction (for example, see paragraph 2).

Because the inventions described in Cited Reference 1 to 3 are all related to dispersion processing systems, it would have been obvious for those skilled in the art to obtain the feature of determining a destination address based on a data type and a source address by employing the inventions described in Cited References 2 and 3 in the invention described in Cited Reference 1.

Regarding claims 2 and 18, it is a well-known technique to notify a user of an error in case a receipt acknowledgement from a receiver does not reach a sender within a given time period.

Regarding claims 5 to 14 and 21 to 30, it would have been obvious for those skilled in the art to obtain a feature in which a user each of set the relationship between a data type and a destination address, the relationship between a source address and the destination address, a setting for each address and a setting for each format, as appropriate.

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Regarding the claims other than those identified in this Notice of Reasons for Rejection, no reason for rejection has been found. In the case that any reason for rejection is newly found, another Notice of Reasons for Rejection will be issued.

List of Cited References

1. Japanese Laid-Open Publication No. 04-229357
2. Japanese Laid-Open Publication No. 08-235112
3. Japanese Laid-Open Publication No. 09-282287

Record of search for prior art documents

*Classes searched: IPC, 7th edition
G06F 13/00, 15/00
G06F 15/16

The documents cited in the above record of a search for prior art documents do not form the basis of the reasons for rejection.

If you have any inquiries concerning this Notice of Reasons for Rejection, or wish to have an interview with the Examiner, please contact us.